

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SHIPPING
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:356

ANSWERED ON:25.02.2016

Inland Waterways

Sahu Shri Chandu Lal;Trivedi Shri Dinesh

Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is any mechanism to gauge/ measure the environmental impact of developing inland waterways, including impact on river ecology;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any mechanism is in place to regularly evaluate environmental impact after a waterway has become operational and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government has analysed the possible damage to the environment due to implementation of the Inland Waterways Project, if so, the details and the outcome thereof; and
- (e) whether the Government has taken note of certain waterways projects that will be implemented in already declared eco-sensitive zones and if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING
(SHRI PON. RADHAKRISHNAN)

(a)&(b): No, Madam.

(c)to(e):Prior to undertaking any developmental activities on National Waterways, a Techno-Economic Feasibility Study is conducted which, inter-alia, includes the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and Environmental Management Plan (EMP) studies. Further, once the waterway is declared as National Waterway, before commencement of its development for shipping purpose, a Detailed Project Report, for every major project is prepared which, inter-alia, includes EIA and EMP. Based on the outcome of these reports, necessary mitigation measures are taken up as per extant rules and regulations.
